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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

UNTEGOFAS13

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 28 April 1950

SUBJECT Planned Increase of Explosives
Production

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

LATE

50X1

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[redacted] following projects regarding the Soviet Zone of Germany explosives plants :

1. Construction of a new Gelatine-Donarit Plant in Schoenebeck (N 53/D 73) with an annual capacity of 12,000 tons. The plant is scheduled to be completed by May 1950.
2. The capacity for the production of safety fuzes is planned to be increased to 50 million meters in the Gnasschwitz (O 52/A 60) plant and to 30 million meters in the Meissen (N 52/F 09) plant.
3. This would mean a Gelatine Donarit production increase from about 3,000 tons to a total of 20,000 tons. The Gnasschwitz safety fuze production would increase from 30 million meters to 50 million meters.
4. The projected capacity increase refers to a special order of the SED.

5.		Comment :
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50X1-HUM

a. [redacted] the annual "donarit" and "chloratit" production capacity of the Mining Explosives and Safety Fuze Plant in Schoenebeck/Elbe (formerly Lignose Explosives Plant, Ltd.) was already 12,000 tons and 6,000 tons respectively in May 1943.

the annual "donarit" and "gelatine-donarit" production capacity of the Gnaschwitz Mining Explosives 50X1-HUM

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No.
No Change in Class
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Class. Changed To:
Auth.: HR 70-2

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and Safety Fuze Plant at 6,000 tons. The total annual explosives production capacity of the Soviet Zone of Germany can therefore be estimated at 24,000 tons.

b. According to this report the construction of a new "gelatine-donarit" Plant in Schoenebeck with an annual capacity of 12,000 tons would mean a total annual "gelatine-donarit" production capacity of 13,000 tons. The total annual explosives production capacity of the Soviet Zone of Germany would then be increased to 36,000 tons.

the Soviet 50X1-HUM Zone of Germany total annual capacity for the production of safety fuzes would amount to 30 million meters. The expansion indicated in this report would mean an annual safety fuze production capacity of 30 million meters.

c. The 1950 schedule provides for the following production of explosives and igniting charges :

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Value in 1,000 DM</u>
Explosives	17,010 t	21,250
Detonators and fuzes	16 mill. pieces	960
Percussion primers	12 mill. pieces	42
Hunting and slaughterhouse cartridges	18 mill. pieces	1,030
Safety fuzes	30 mill. meters	1,500

d. According to these figures the reported annual explosives production capacity increase to 36,000 tons and safety fuze production capacity increase to 30 million meters is improbable, unless the SMAD was especially interested in this capacity increase during the last quarter of 1949.

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